

work, indeed, was an article on "The Recent Progress of Astronomy," which appeared in the number for April of last year.

He was a popular and prolific writer, and was a frequent contributor to several magazines and reviews. The protection of buildings from lightning was a subject on which he wrote a good deal, and for which he did much valuable work.

In 1874 he was appointed Secretary to the African Section of the Society of Arts; a post he only resigned in consequence of failing health at the completion of the last session of the society.

For four years he served as one of the Board of Visitors of the Royal Institution, of which he became a member in 1876, subsequently being elected on the Council.

In 1878 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons. Dr. Mann was well known in scientific circles, and for many years he was a member of the Astronomical, Meteorological, Geographical, and Photographic Societies.

From first to last he was a most active and indefatigable worker, and his end was probably hastened by his being, during the last four months of his life, when already in failing health, busily engaged in preparing and bringing out the catalogue of the Natal Court at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition. He was at the Natal Court engaged in this last work only three days before being suddenly struck down by paralysis, which terminated fatally two days afterwards, on August 4. He was buried at Kensal Green Cemetery.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society March 9, 1855.

JAMES PEARSON, M.A., vicar of Fleetwood, was born at Preston, Lancashire, and received his education there, up to the period of becoming an undergraduate of Cambridge University, first with Mr. Abbott, a highly reputed private schoolmaster of fifty years since, and afterwards at the Grammar School, chiefly under the mastership of the Rev. G. Nun Smith, an excellent teacher and proficient scholar. Here the foundation was laid for the distinguished college honours afterwards gained by the pupil. Whilst at the grammar school he took the second place for several years, and finally was bracketed as equal with the first, the two entering together upon their university career. Mr. Pearson came out as a first class in the examinations of his year at Trinity College, was subsequently rewarded with a scholarship, and graduated in the high position of fifteenth wrangler in 1848. After two years of further residence he accepted the curacy of the rural parish of Scarisbrick, near Ormskirk, a position, it may well be allowed, not very congenial to a man of his antecedents and abilities, and he resigned it to accept the dual appointment of rector of St. Edmund's and mathematical master of the King Edward the Sixth Grammar School at Norwich. After retaining this for about four years he was chosen one of the mathematical professors in the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. Either a longing to live near the

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scenes of his childhood or a preference for parochial work, probably both combined, led him to forego this advantageous position for a second edition of the life of a country clergyman at Altcar, near Liverpool, a presentation of the Earl of Sefton. The population was a scattered one of three hundred souls, and the care and companionship of these was scarcely adequate to keep up the mental calibre in a man like Mr. Pearson, who was always full, even to excitement, of scientific instincts. Here, however, he found one or two congenial spirits and kindred tastes, whose friendship he held dear to the end of his days. Another change yet awaited him, and in 1862 he went to Workington as vicar of St. John's in that town, and remained nine years, quitting it in 1871 to go to Fleetwood. At Workington he was greatly appreciated both as a teacher and a preacher, and this appreciation was manifested in a high degree by a handsome testimonial presented on his leaving, and more handsomely impressed by the testimony to his worth in the words which accompanied the presentation.

His scientific researches, besides astronomy, went in the direction of the study of the tides, and on this subject he was a very frequent and constant contributor to scientific papers. His system of tide computation was adopted by the Admiralty for this coast, and he designed and had erected on the pier at Fleetwood a novel and ingenious contrivance for registering the height of the tides and testing his calculations, which were always found to be very accurate. He designed several novel contrivances in connection with this subject, one of which has been for some time erected on the Blackpool Pier and another at Fleetwood. It consists of a dial, which is set each day and points to the height of the tide at all hours during that day, both ebb and flow. He also published a *Treatise on the Tides* in 1881, which was hailed with much approval by many astronomers of the day, and very soon became scarce. Several works of a minor character on this and kindred subjects proceeded at different periods from his pen, all denoting the enthusiasm of the author for his favourite studies.

Mr. Pearson died on April 8, 1886, after a lingering and painful illness.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society April 10, 1874.

ADMIRAL SIR CHARLES FREDERICK ALEXANDER SHADWELL K.C.B., F.R.S., was born on January 31, 1814, and was the fourth son of the late Right Hon. Sir Lancelot Shadwell, Vice Chancellor of England. He entered the navy May 3, 1827, from the Royal Naval College, and passed his examination in 1833. On June 28, 1838, he obtained his lieutenant's commission, and was appointed in the following July to the *Casto* Captain Edward Collier, with whom he served on the coast of Syria in 1840, and assisted at the operations against Caiffa, Jaffa, Tsour, and St. Jean d'Acre. His next appointment was